

Friendlier Film World Sought

IODE Will Carry On Agitation

A closer understanding between the IODE and motion picture interests over the long-controversial showing of films at juvenile matinees was indicated in the annual report of Mrs. Pauline E. McGibbon, Ontario film convenor for the organization.

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Honor Axler With Bachelor Dinner

Almost 200 members of the industry in the vicinity of Toronto gathered at the Chez Paree, Bloor street, at a testimonial dinner to Myer L. Axler, Twentieth Century Theatres supervisor, who was married last week to Miss Mildred Caplan.

(Continued on Page 8)

Hope to Limit Trade Barriers Via San Francisco Conference

Adoption of a resolution for worldwide free interchange of films is being sought by the film industry at the San Francisco Conference of the United Nations. In recommending such a resolution the movie business is not seeking economic privileges, said a spokesman for the industry in New York.

Five FPCC Theatres To 20th Century

Twentieth Century Theatres has taken over operation of five additional show houses in Ontario. They are the Grand, Galt, the Guelph theatre, Guelph, the Palace, London, and the Imperial and Rideau theatres, Ottawa. All of them were formerly under Famous Players.

Goldstein to Mono

Maurice "Morey" Goldstein has been appointed as Monogram's eastern sales manager, according to a recent announcement made by Steve Broidy, vice-president and general sales manager.

Ontario Theatres' New Inspection

Every theatre in the province of Ontario will be required to have a Hydro inspection of all its wiring in compliance with a recent order from the provincial Theatre Inspection branch before a new license will be granted.

With some theatre owners, (Continued on Page 6)

Lloyd Lind to PRC

Lloyd Lind has taken over the post of assistant general sales manager with PRC Pictures, USA, resigning from Monogram.

Lind's appointment was made by Harry Thomas who recently became PRC's general sales manager.

Will Hays, discussing the same (Continued on Page 5)

Hands Across the Border



Two war loan leaders with but a single thought—Sam Pinanski, chairman of the "Showmen's 7th" drive of the USA and J. J. Fitzgibbons, chairman of the motion picture section of the National War Finance Committee sponsoring Canada's Eighth Victory Loan, discuss plans for their respective war loan drives at "Showmen's 7th" headquarters in New York. They are shown inspecting a banner which will be displayed in USA theatres during the drive.

Quebec 6 p.c. Tax Borne by Exhibs

Quebec exhibitors will appeal to Ottawa for the right to pass the new six per cent provincial luxury tax on film, advertising accessories and equipment on to the public, it is reported from Montreal.

The tax, which was made effective as of April 27th, arose out of "an act to afford aid to education and public health," was imposed, among many other articles, "Cinematographic, television and photographic instruments and apparatus, and films of all kinds and the rental of such films." It took effect before the actual passage of the bill.

David Cote, CCF, presented the protest of the Montreal Trades and Labor Council against passage of the bill. The proposed tax was unfair, he said, and would hit

(Continued on Page 2)

Howe New Manager Capitol, St. John

F. Harrison Howe has been named manager of the Capitol Theatre, Saint John, New Brunswick, succeeding the late Walter Golding. Howe was assistant manager of the same house for many years and he was in charge of the theatre during Golding's illness.

Mrs. Gertrude Johnstone, treasurer, has taken over the post of assistant manager.

The late Walter Golding managed the house from its opening until his death.



Identity Unknown

Roger Pryor. Distributed by EMPIRE-UNIVERSAL FILMS LTD. Book

Your audience will thrill to the burning riddle of the man with four lives in Republic's great new dramatic picture starring Richard Arlen, Cheryl Walker and this outstanding boxoffice attraction now.

Film Weekly

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HYE BOSSIN, Managing Editor

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'West Wind'

There is an excellent survey of the National Film Board and its bright young men in the May edition of *Monetary Times*, a periodical which has shown an unusual and flattering awareness of the Canadian motion picture industry.

The opening paragraph of the article is of unusual interest:

"Reports from Italy state that after battle-weary Canadian troops had seen 'West Wind'—a film on the life of Tom Thomson—there was scarcely a dry eye in the audience. Perhaps not many of these men had heard of Thomson—and few of them cared about art. That did not matter. This moving and beautiful film spoke to them eloquently of a land they knew, and longed to see once more. It was Canada they saw on the screen that night."

"West Wind" is a short subject produced in color several years ago for the National Film Board by Graham McInnis, now head of the Information Section of the NFB. Impressive in its beauty, the film has excellent commercial possibilities, particularly in Canada.

When one remembers how many shorts featuring our scenery have been made by American studios for USA and Dominion showing, it is hard to understand why a short of the quality of "West Wind" should be hidden from the eyes of city theatre-goers because there are only 16 mm. prints of it available.

Edited for commercial purposes, it would win wide praise and reflect credit on the company which brings it out. It may even have an American market, since Canadians find USA travelogues interesting and vice-versa.

We live in a big country with a small population and not enough of us get around in it. "West Wind" would be an interesting experience, whether cultural or just for diversion.

Canadian literature has reached the position where it is of interest to Americans, as witness the success of "Earth and High Heaven" and "Two Solitudes." Certain Canadian films would receive the same welcome reception. Most certainly such films should be made available for the Canadian theatre movie-goer, just as books written in the Dominion can be obtained easily by all.

One of our leading theatre managers, a man who has made short subjects a special attraction by his astute presentations, recently checked over a list of 16 mm. semi-scenic subjects accumulated by the NFB and expressed his regret that they were not available in 35 mm. for editing and inclusion in a kind of film potpourri that he had found very successful in the past.

Those warriors of ours are coming back to a country for which they have a great love, even though most never have and never will see all of it. This love and pride is not to be mistaken for a silly type of nationalism. But it is easy to understand a desire to see—even if only on the screen—some of the Fair Domain for which they gave up so much.

We are not suggesting here that anything the National Film Board makes should get special preference on theatre screens. Occasionally a film is produced for its rural non-theatrical program which would be of interest to urban patrons. "West Wind," for example.

Then again we have our own national heroes. So small is our population and so large is our country that we need every means of expression to make our people aware of those who have served it in fields other than politics.

Quebec 6 p.c. Tax Borne by Exhibs

(Continued from Page 1)

the working classes at a time when war veterans would be returning to civil life.

The bill sets forth that "companies and manufacturers" and "every purchaser other than a company or a manufacturer" will be subject to the tax.

Exhibitors are bound to pay such a tax by Clause 12 of the Canadian License Agreement, which states that the Film Board of Trade has the right to determine the manner in which it is to be borne. Whether or not it is passed on to the public, the exhibitor must, under the agreement, accept the tax—even if the government levies it on the exchange. The exchange may, as its legal right, pass the charge on to the exhibitor.

The tax replaces the present one of two per cent. For the purpose of control of collections

a license, for which no fee is charged, must be obtained.

With the new measure, about 37 cents of every theatre dollar in Quebec goes to taxes. There is a provincial seat tax and a similar one by most large municipalities.

There is a possibility that an amendment to the measure as it stands now may be tried. The Montreal Daily Star, in questioning certain of its aspects, stated that "Examination of the listed taxes shows that over a wide range they duplicate taxes already imposed by Ottawa for war purposes" and apply to many articles now "arbitrarily classed as luxuries but which have become necessities of modern living . . ." The Star said it did not quarrel with the principle of shifting taxation to the shoulders of those best able to bear it "But we may legitimately question the advisability of classing as luxuries a great many articles of daily use and services which have become necessities."

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Hotel Berlin

with Andrea King, Helmut Dantine,
Raymond Massey, Faye Emerson
Warner Bros. 98 Mins.
SUBJECT MATTER AND EXCITING
PRODUCTION WILL ASSURE THIS
ONE OF SUCCESS.

The lure of its title and exploitableness of its material give the film version of the Vicki Baum novel a ready-made advantage without taking into account the production's merits as entertainment. The film has been turned out with the vigor and technical skill that have become a commonplace of Warner Bros. melodrama. While the treatment is not too convincing, the picture succeeds in creating a sense of life, excitement and commotion that captures the interest and holds it to the end.

In their screenplay Jo Pagano and Alvah Bessie haven't been able to avoid a feeling of confusion. The script, dealing with opposite forces among the German people, fails to make the loyalties of some of the characters clear and definite. This is one of the serious shortcomings of the film.

As in Miss Baum's "Grand Hotel," the action takes place in a Berlin hotel peopled by characters impelled by various motives in their allegiance to one side or the other. The emphasis is more on character analysis than it is on plot content.

The story has to do with the German underground. Helmut Dantine is a foe of the Nazis who hides from the Gestapo in the hotel. In his efforts to avoid detection he becomes involved with a number of persons, some sympathetic, some not. Among them are Andrea King, an actress; Faye Emerson, a floosie; Peter Lorre, a professor; George Coulouris, a Gestapo chief. Raymond Massey plays a general who is made to take his own life because of treason.

Well-produced by Louis Edel-
man, the film has fast direction
by Peter Godfrey.

CAST: Helmut Dantine, Andrea King, Raymond Massey, Faye Emerson, Peter Lorre, Alan Hale, George Coulouris, Henry Daniell, Peter Whitney, Helene Thimig, Steven Geray, Kurt Kreuger, Paul Andor, Erwin Kalsner, Dickie Tyler, Elsa Heils, Frank Reicher, Paul Panzer, John Mylong, Ruth Albu, Jay Novello, Lotte Stein, Torben Meyer.

CREDITS: Producer, Louis Edelman; Director, Peter Godfrey; Screenplay, Jo Pagano, Alvah Bessie; Based on novel by Vicki Baum; Cameraman, Carl Guthrie; Art Director, John Hughes; Film Editor, Frank Magee; Sound, Charles Lang; Set Decorator, Clarence Steenson.

DIRECTION, Good. PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.

Pan- Americana

with Phillip Terry, Audrey Long
RKO 84 Mins.
MUSIC, COMEDY AND ROMANCE
BLENDED TO THE SATISFACTION
OF AVERAGE FILMGOER.

A musical romance devised to capture the popular interest, "Pan-Americana" should have little difficulty attracting audiences and keeping them entertained. The picture is made of the stuff that goes over especially well with younger souls. Gay in spirit, throbbing with Latin-American rhythms, light in mood, the production, attractively turned out under the supervision of Producer John H. Auer, commands the attention at all times.

A gesture to our neighbors to the South, the film has Phillip Terry and Audrey Long as the love birds. The former, photographer for a magazine, has to live down his reputation as a wolf before he can win Miss Long, a feature writer for the publication who is engaged to another man. The action takes place on a Latin-American tour conducted by the magazine in a search for representative beauties for a show sponsored by the publication.

The romance has been worked out to the accompaniment of generous doses of rumba, samba and other Latin-American music specialty numbers, several of them of outstanding merit, are scattered liberally through the footage.

Under the skilled direction of Auer, the players perform commendably. Terry and Miss Long make a good pair of lovers. The comedy is handled capably by Robert Benchley and Eve Arden.

CAST: Phillip Terry, Audrey Long, Robert Benchley, Eve Arden, Ernest Truex, Marc Cramer, Isabelita, Rosario and Antonio, Miguelito Valdes, Harold and Lola, Louise Burnett, Chinita Marin, Chuy Castillon, Padilla Sisters, Chuy Reyes and orchestra, Nestor Amaral and Samba band.

CREDITS: Producer, John H. Auer; Executive Producer, Sid Rogell; Director, John H. Auer; Screenplay, Lawrence Kimble; Based on story by Frederic Kohner, John H. Auer; Cameraman, Frank Redman; Musical Director, C. Bakaleinikoff; Musical numbers staged by Charles O'Curran; Special Effects, Vernon L. Walker; Art Directors, Albert S. D'Agostino, Al Herman; Set Decorators, Darrell Silvera, Michael Ohrenbach; Sound, Richard Van Hesse; Film Editor, Harry Marker.

DIRECTION, Good. PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.

Forever Yours

with Gale Storm, John Mack Brown
Monogram 84 Mins.
INFANTILE PARALYSIS SUBJECT
OF GOOD DRAMATIC FILM FOR
FAMILY TRADE.

In "Forever Yours" Jeffrey Bernard has produced for Monogram what easily rates as one of the studio's top films. Besides being a satisfactory piece of dramatic entertainment with a strong emotional sense that makes it particularly appealing to women, the film is a worthy contribution in the fight to curb the ravages of infantile paralysis. Its subject makes the picture highly exploitable merchandise, especially in connection with polio campaigns.

The film reveals a substantial growth in the talents of Gale Storm and gives her full opportunity to display her capabilities. The actress carries very well indeed the role of the life-loving daughter of a noted surgeon who falls victim to infantile paralysis. The future looks miserable to the girl and she loses interest in life until an Army surgeon wins permission to try on her a new type of operative treatment that restores her to health and happiness. Naturally, she falls in love with the surgeon.

Under the capable direction of William Nigh the cast comes through praiseworthy. Stand-outs among the supporting players are John Mack Brown, as the Army surgeon; Conrad Nagel and Sir Aubrey Smith, respectively father and grandfather of Miss Storm; Frank Craven and Mary Boland as her uncle and aunt who provide comedy relief.

CAST: Gale Storm, Sir Aubrey Smith, John Mack Brown, Frank Craven, Conrad Nagel, Billy Wilkerson, Mary Boland, Johnny Downs, Catherine McLeod, Selmer Jackson, Russ Whiteman, Matt Willis, Leo Diamond and his Harmonaires.

CREDITS: Producer, Jeffrey Bernard; Screenplay, Neil Rau, George Sayre; Director, William Nigh; Cameraman, Harry Neumann; Sound, Tom Lambert; Art Director, Ernie Hickson; Musical Director, Edward Kay; Film Editor, Ray Curtiss.

DIRECTION, Good. PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.

Wolfe Cohen Tours Australia and NZ.

Wolfe Cohen, former head of Warner Brothers in Canada, and now vice-president of Warner International Corporation, is now in Australia making his first survey of the territory recently placed under his jurisdiction. He will spend about a month in Australia and then he will go on to visit New Zealand and Manila.

What a Blonde

with Leon Errol, Veda Ann Borg
RKO 71 Mins.
INFLATED TWO-REEL COMEDY
MATERIAL AS WOBBLY AS ERROL'S
WALK; NEEDS STRONG SUPPORT.

Leon Errol's repetitious over-playing of situations stretches the footage into a nerve-wracking feature-length film that could easily have been broken into a couple of two-reel comedies to serve audiences to a better advantage. There are, however, a few good laughs to relieve the huffing and puffing of Errol, who is suspected of being a "wolf."

Fitting the situations which are jig-sawed into the plot, we find Errol, a lingerie manufacturer, needing two riders in order to get extra gas coupons. He hires Michael St. Angel while his butler hires Veda Ann Borg, vivacious wise-cracking blonde show-girl.

Clarence Kolb, silk manufacturer whom Errol is dependent upon for materials, unexpectedly brings his wife to Errol's house for dinner. They are led to believe that Borg is Mrs. Errol until the real Mrs. Errol returns from a visit to her mother. The silk mogul walks out on his host, and Angel proves a devil when he tells Errol that he has a formula for synthetic silk which he can put into effect—after the war.

CAST: Leon Errol, Richard Lane, Michael St. Angel, Elaine Riley, Veda Ann Borg, Lydia Bilbrock, Clarence Kolb, Ann Shoemaker, Chef Milani, Emory Parnell, Larry Wheat, Dorothy Vaughan, Jason Robards.

CREDITS: Producer, Ben Stoloff; Director, Leslie Goodwins; Screenplay, Charles Roberts; Executive Producer, Sid Rogell; Original Story, Oscar Brodney; Cameraman, J. Roy Hunt; Art Directors, Albert S. D'Agostino, Lucius Croxton; Set Decorator, Darrell Silvera; Sound, Earl Wolcott; Music, Leigh Harline; Musical Director, C. Bakaleinikoff; Editor, Edward W. Williams; Gowns, Edward Stevenson; Assistant Director, James Casey.

DIRECTION, Fair. PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.

The Bell Tolls For 'Bell' Opening

A novel method of announcing the start of another performance was used during the run of "For Whom the Bell Tolls" at the Capitol Theatre, Vancouver. A record played the tolling of a bell through amplifiers on the front and rear marquees 45 seconds before the start of each show. With press items explaining the purpose, patrons were able to ascertain the exact starting time of a show.

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over the air
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West!

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Directed by **WALLACE FOX**



It's a Monogram "Must"..... Book it Now!

IODE Will Carry On Agitation

(Continued from Page 1)

tion. Ed Wells, executive secretary of the producers' association, recently took part in discussions with a committee of the IODE.

According to Mrs. McGibbon, "The film industry too has at long last decided that they should take action to clean up this Saturday matinee question" and that she had been given "verbal assurances" that the chains would instruct their bookers that "only pictures which everyone in the family could see are to be booked for weekend release."

The report revealed that "The Hon. Mr. Frost, under whose jurisdiction the Censor Board functions, thinks that a committee of women might be a better answer to the problem than a psychologist." One IODE branch had proposed that a child psychologist be attached to the Censor Board and this won some support in the house.

The IODE is apparently bent on theatre policing and continued agitation. Referring to the law which calls for matrons to be present at juvenile matinees, the report advises chapter convenors to check "and if the law is being evaded and no attempt made to have a matron present," to notify their superiors who will complain to the Theatre Inspection branch. "As this work goes into another year," the report states, "it should be apparent to all that there is neither a dearth of problems nor a lack of interest."

Pointing out that some years ago films in Ontario were graded as Adult or Universal, it said that this might be done again "if all else fails."

Placing the IODE in support of the NFB theatrical and non-theatrical program, it was claimed that "Leading men in the industry would like to see an evening's program planned around a feature picture, a newsreel, a comedy or cartoon and a documentary or short subject" in preference to double bills and that growing popularity of film libraries will force theatres to plan such programs.

1200-Seat House For Toronto

Announcement of plans for the opening of a new theatre in Toronto's Pape and Danforth district comes from Lou Stancer, formerly of the Regal Theatre, Toronto. An engineer and an architect are collaborating on the project and many American innovations in theatre building will be introduced. The house will seat from 1,000 to 1,200.



Typodermic Injections

Archie Minarsky, brother of Bess and Marlon of 20th Century Theatres head office staff, was heard from as safe. The Americans freed his prison camp but no word had been heard from him. The staff was so anxious that you'd think he was everyone's brother. Another happy lass was Ida McCormack of the same office, whose brother-in-law was also freed . . . The 20th Century Club, which holds its annual party at La Chaumiere next week, presented member Myer Axler with a gift on the occasion of his marriage . . . Syd Taube is looking well again, after an illness of several weeks . . . It is interesting to note that "Fame," a Quigley publication, has become an "Annual Audit of Screen and Radio Personalities." Actors, producers and directors are listed—but no writers. That's like going to a world of trouble to prepare to attend the theatre—then forgetting the tickets.

* * *

Rogert Ferri deserves the admiration of readers and fellow-craftsmen for his out-of-this-world Anniversary Edition of 20th-Fox's "Dynamo" . . . Over at PRC the switchboard gals are always having to put folks right who call up and ask if it's the CPR . . . Which reminds me of Harland Rankin, who never puts our street address on any letters and writes any name he can think of but ours. But that's in keeping, because in the envelope so badly addressed was a note by Harland about Harland pouring paint oil instead of machine oil into his lawnmower, jamming it . . . There's a gag around about a manufacturer walking with his kid through a park. The kid kept asking what kind of a flower was this or that, till the pater became impatient and snapped, "How do I know—am I a milliner?"

Reunion

London was the scene of an unplanned Famous Players' head office reunion recently. Bert Brown, there with the Navy Show, ran into Bud Barker. Pretty soon Jim Cameron, Army Show man, showed up as did Lou Karp, ex-booker, and Lockie Haight, now a photographer.

There was a considerable supply of fluid drive on hand and the boys began toasting their former colleagues, starting with J. J. Fitzgibbons and ending with the office boys.

It is presumed that stuff held out but since FPCC has a large staff it is likely that, by the time they got to the office boys, they were raising 'em from reclining positions.

Fast Changeovers

Glenn Ireton, Warners impress-agent, who recently shed the showy facial fringe he accumulated up north while scripting "Forest Commandos," captured curious stares last week by hauling a bored bear cub around The Square. Accompanying the team of Ireton & Bruin, Jr. was that amply-beavered tamer of wolves, the legendary Joe Laflamme, who appeared in the film. Bruin, Jr., nicknamed "Commando" and designated Warners home office mascot, slid around on my glass-topped desk while Ireton and Laflamme looked on with fatherly pride. Then Bruin tried to digest a page of my copy and quit after a couple of heroic tries. A critic, eh? . . . Saw a screening of J. B. Priestly's "They Came to the City," a film about the World of Tomorrow that is bound to start a controversy. Priestly, who recently kicked Hollywood around for making "drivel," appears in it. It's a strange film, since it doesn't tell or show just what form the World of Tomorrow should take.

* * *

Associated Screen News privately previewed its "Pasturelands," a three-reel color "Western" made for Quaker Oats. The folks ate it up—as well as the nice buffet supper that followed the 5.15 unreeing . . . They are talking about a remake of "Mickey" and that should bring happy memories to Charlie Stephenson, who was responsible for putting it in the old Grand Opera House for a 16-week run, and Walter Kennedy, sweet-voiced singer of those other years, who warbled its hit song right through . . . "You are a genius," Queen Victoria is said to have told Paderewski, the great pianist. "Quite so, Your Majesty," he replied, "but before I was a genius I was a drudge."

Seek Friendlier Film World

(Continued from Page 1)

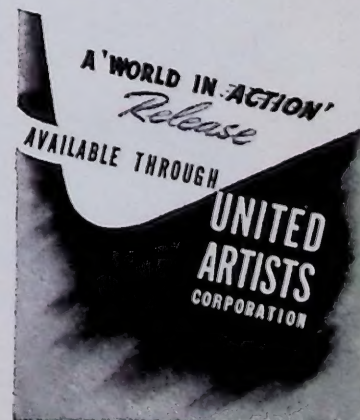
question in his annual report to the MPPDA, declared that the motion picture industry has a great stake in the Bretton Woods Pact of which early approval by the American Congress would strengthen the San Francisco Conference. The Bretton Woods Plan includes proposals for the assurance of a high level of international trade through the removal of trade barriers and it also recommends wiping out of all restrictions on film earnings after the transitional period from war to peace.

At present 58 countries have some form of controls which impede the free distribution of American films, the Hays report revealed, and new restrictions are cropping up daily.

In addition to informing peoples all over the world of the purpose and progress of the world security organization, motion pictures will also be called upon to help create "the conditions that make for peace," the report declared.



NOW—
THE PEACE



Ontario Theatres' New Inspection

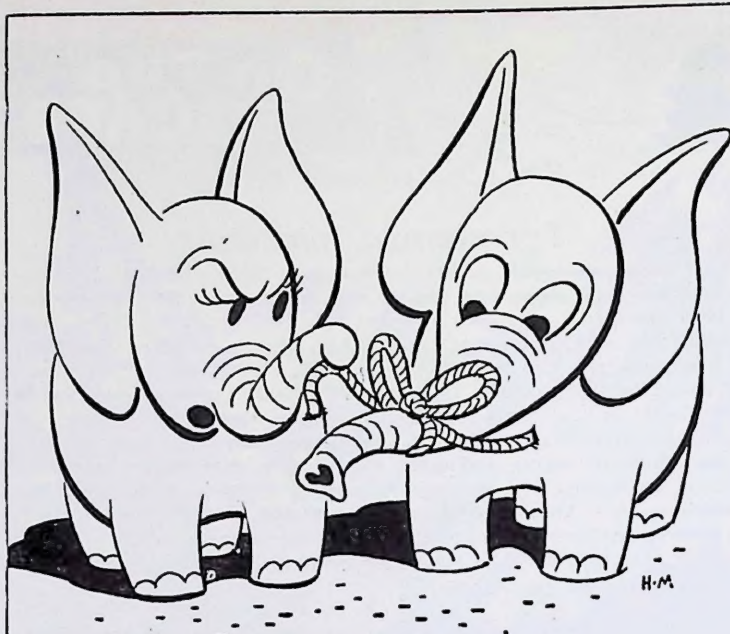
(Continued from Page 1)

wondering just what the charge would be for this inspection, the matter was brought to the attention of the board of directors of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario, who in turn took the question up with the Hydro authorities.

The announcement now comes from A. H. Jolley, executive-secretary of the association, that the charge will be \$2.00 per theatre, on the assurance of Messrs. P. T. Gaston and D. S. Cronkhite of Hydro's electrical inspection department. In the odd case where a large theatre is inspected the cost may be a little higher, with a \$4.00 limit. In cases where alterations are required after the initial inspection the additional charge will average \$1.10 and it will not exceed \$2.00.

Frost Nominated

Leslie M. Frost, provincial treasurer, who has jurisdiction over the Motion Picture Censorship and Theatre Inspection Branch at Queen's Park, has been chosen Progressive Conservative candidate in Victoria riding.



"THAT'S JUST SO YOU'LL REMEMBER
TO BUY SOME **VICTORY BONDS**"

Famous Players' Ontario Changes

Famous Players has altered its Ontario districts to facilitate supervision, it has been announced, with changes having become effective on April 30.

The district supervised by Dan Krendel will include Toronto suburban houses, Hamilton, Niagara Falls, St. Catharines and Welland.

Ray Tubman will have charge of theatres in Brockville, Bellville, Hull, Kingston and Ottawa. New to his jurisdiction are Bellville and Kingston.

Brantford, Galt, Guelph and Woodstock have been added to Jack Arthur's string, which was formerly comprised of Barrie, Noranda, Rouyn (Quebec), North Bay, Oshawa, Peterborough, Sault Ste. Marie and Woodstock.

Atrocity Shots

Theatres were filled with audible gasps last week at each screening of a newsreel containing German atrocity shots.

When the first atrocity clip was shown in London filmgoers tried to leave the theatres but they were forced back to their seats by Allied soldiers.

THE PERFECT COMBINATION OF ROMANCE AND TECHNICOLOR

.... BLENDED FOR YOUR BOXOFFICE!

Building Begins On New FP House

Construction of the new Paramount Theatre, planned for New Waterford, Nova Scotia, at an approximate cost of \$120,000 is scheduled to get under way this month. This announcement comes from Fred Gregor who is associated with George Walker and Eldridge Gouthro in the project. It is also revealed that the new theatre will be a Famous Players affiliate.

The house will have a seating capacity of about 360. It will be air-conditioned and will include all the latest developments in theatre construction. The theatre will also be built to prepare for the arrival of television in the postwar period.

Plans for the new showhouse were made by Kaplan and Sprachman, Toronto architects.

20th-Fox to Get British Pix

Two British films, costing an average of 150,000 pounds each, are to be produced for world-wide distribution by 20th Century-Fox, as a result of an agreement entered into by Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th-Fox with J. Arthur Rank in London.



Frances Dee and Joel McCrea draw lucky numbers in a Victory Bond drawing at Associated Screen Studios. The two stars paid a visit to the Montreal movie studio on the day after their radio appearance on Canada's Victory Loan Show.

Shown above from left to right—Grace Blackburn of the studio's loan drive committee, B. E. Norrish, president of Associated Screen News, Joel McCrea and Frances Dee.

Six employees of the studio will win prizes in the drawing, participated in by purchasers of bonds. In addition to prizes ranging from Victory Bonds to War Saving Certificates, to be awarded by number at the end of the drive, each winner gets the envelope in which the lucky number was sealed — autographed by both Frances Dee and Joel McCrea.

Pix on the Agenda Of US State Dept.

An interest in organizing and extending the freedom of exchange of information and ideas internationally by means of motion pictures, as well as press and radio, has been expressed by the American State Department.

The government is not going into the film business, according to a statement made by Archibald MacLeish, assistant secretary of state, in an address before top ranking film makers, but movies are definitely on the agenda of the State Department.

Motion pictures are the greatest means of getting a message across to conquered or other peoples, MacLeish said.

'Thunderhead' Wins Medal of Honor

Parents' Magazine has awarded its Medal of Honor for the Month of April to Mary O'Hara's "Thunderhead, Son of Flicka," 20th Century-Fox' Technicolor sequel to "My Friend Flicka," as the outstanding movie of the month.

The March award of Parents Magazine also went to 20th-Fox for "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn."

G. C. F.'s

First Top-Grossing Success!

"Colonel Blimp"

A Glorious Release from U.A.

'Memo Britain' Wins Praise

"Memo From Britain," the latest in the documentary film series, "March of Time," produced by the editors of Life, Time and Fortune, and released by 20th Century-Fox, won the editorial praise of the Toronto Globe & Mail.

"It is a constructive piece of work which will help the American public to better appreciate the contribution made by Great Britain to the defeat of Germany," said the newspaper.

"Memo From Britain" describes vividly the effect of the blitz, the flying bomb, the hard rationing and the scarcity of food in the United Kingdom. It shows the extent of casualties and lost homes suffered by the people of Britain and it gives an idea of the almost incredible effort to produce and fight under most difficult conditions which made it possible for the British to see the job through.

"At this time," the editorial concluded, "When the San Francisco Conference is in session and future peace depends so much upon better relations among partners, 'Memo From Britain' is a worthy contribution."

Paramount Pushes Shorts Program

Inaugurating the fifth year of Paramount shorts as a separate department, Oscar Morgan, sales manager, will begin the 1945-46 season with a series of ten regional conferences with district and branch managers from coast to coast. While on the west coast, Morgan will also spend some time with Paramount Studio heads, Henry Ginsberg and Y. Frank Freeman together with George "Dink" Templeton, newly appointed producer of the Musical Parade Featurettes.

"Sales figures indicate a definite trend to play more shorts than ever before," said Morgan in reporting on the progress made by his department. He also revealed that shorts are coming to replace the second feature among some of the large circuits in strong double-feature territory.

"Many innovations have enhanced the value of our product over the past two years," stated Morgan, "including the increased use of Technicolor and emphasis on quality and variety. This has been borne out by the fact that for three consecutive years, Paramount has won the Academy Award for the best one-reel subject of the year, and Paramount shorts have lead in practically every exhibitor poll."

An augmented advertising schedule is to be announced by Morgan which calls for regular monthly trade ads in addition to the usual announcement made at the beginning of the season.

All matters pertaining to the distribution of Paramount shorts clear through Morgan under the direct supervision of Charles M. Reagan, vice-president and general sales manager of the company.

British-USA Treaty

A treaty signed by the USA and Great Britain ends double taxation on incomes and is expected to facilitate the movement back and forth of film players and technicians from both countries.

Massey-Bergman

Raymond Massey and Ingrid Bergman will co-star in a play set for New York in the fall.

Honor Axler With Bachelor Dinner

(Continued from Page 1)

It was a gay evening of food and fun during which toasts were delivered to the bride, groom and parents. At the conclusion of the toasts Nat Taylor presented Axler with a travelling bag in behalf of those present. Axler, in thanking those who had come to honor him, took occasion to introduce some of his former comrades in the service.

Toast to the bride was delivered by Sol Lyon; the parents by Jesse Kaplan, and the groom by Haskell Masters.

Each speaker spent part of the time indulging in good-natured abuse at the expense of the guest of honor, a custom at affairs of that kind. Haskell Masters, making his first public address since joining Warners and charged with the toast to the groom, was excellent.

Sol Lyon, who toasted the bride, was 85 years old but as bright and witty as anyone present. He recalled other days when he toured Canada with stage troupes, drawing on his theatrical background for an interesting speech.

Nat Taylor regaled the listeners with a dissertation on various types of love prior to making the presentation.

Hye Bossin, acting as toastmaster, took the opportunity of introducing John J. Fitzgibbons, Dave Griesdorf, Larry Bearg and Frank Kershaw to the gathering.

Hollywood's New Press Policy

A common public relations policy towards the Canadian press has been recommended for adoption by all Hollywood studios, with the same unit at each studio, whether foreign or domestic, looking after all Canadian-routed material. This recommendation was included in the report of a survey of worldwide exploitation conditions made by the international sub-committee of Producers Association's Public Information Committee (western division).

The expectation of a battle between American and British film industries for world domination is reflected in the report, and all the suggestions contained therein are designed to prepare for this situation. (The idea of a global battle persists in American circles despite the fact that J. Arthur Rank, British film head, has repeatedly denied that the interests he represents are out for world wide control of the movie industry.)

Newspapers, magazines and even news services covering other lands have been subject to neglect, according to the report, and the foreign publicity bureaus, especially those in the studios have been given very little attention by the domestic publicity staffs. All the recommendations in the report of the sub-committee are designed to counteract the aforementioned situation and ease coming problems in the field of international publicity and sales promotion.

Publicity writers and planters must become more aware of the growing importance of the international situation. To avoid friction, the report advises the international cable press must be given news-breaks simultaneously with their release to the American press.

There are 47 international correspondents now in Hollywood, representing 125 publications in 24 countries.

FDR Memorial Reel In 16 Mm. Copies

Special 16 mm. copies of the Pathe-Paramount newsreel highlighting the life and funeral of Franklin Delano Roosevelt are to be made on the order of N. Peter Rathvon for RKO and Barney Balaban for Paramount.

Following a special showing of the reel for the Roosevelt family in Washington, Mrs. Roosevelt requested that 16 mm. copies be made. According to her wish they will be filed in the National Archives, at Washington and in the FDR Memorial Library, at High Park.



If The Star
Lost His Voice
Tonight in
YOUR Theatre?

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A National Theatre Service, such as maintained by Dominion Sound Equipments Limited, means—an organization with a specially trained personnel to provide regular and emergency technical service, equipment and supplies for theatres.



FLAME OF THE BARBARY COAST

Republ's "Flame of the Barbary Coast" is a lusty, fighting Western with musical interludes — a type of film regularly successful. It is well-mounted and its excitement reaches the peak with the Frisco quake. John Wayne, Ann Dvorak, Joseph Schildkraut and William Frawley keep it moving fast. It's proof of Republic's major intentions.



New Screen Has Possibilities

A STUDIO devoted to the stereoscopic cinema is being organized at Moscow where not only stereoscopic films but also all the special machinery and screens are to be produced. Under a decision of the Committee on Cinematography a serial issue of luminous stereoscopic screens has been scheduled to be installed in the cinemas of the Soviet Union within the next five or six months. Stereoscopic films will be shown in many towns throughout the country.

Producer Alexander Andrievski has begun staging the first artistic stereoscopic film: Robinson Crusoe—founded on Daniel Defoe's world-famed novel. This film will be screened in natural surroundings in the Caucasus.

In the making of this film, all the new technical principles of stereoscopic photography will be brought into use. The very form of the stereoscopic screen is to be changed. Instead of being narrow and drawn out towards the top—which complicated the placing of the actors and cramped the range of the landscape limiting the field of vision generally—the screen is now going to be almost similar to those used in the ordinary cinema.

All these innovations have recently been elaborated by the inventor of the Soviet stereoscopic cinema and Stalin prize-winner, Semyon Ivanov.

IN shooting the new film of Robinson Crusoe, new methods evolved during wartime will be used. This will widen the scope of the stereoscopic performance. This method will enable the producer to show simultaneously actions taking place at different times and in different planes.

The spectators will see in the auditorium, quite close to themselves, Robinson's hands weaving a fence of twigs while in the depth of the screen Robinson will appear full length building a hut.

In a number of the sequences in this film hand-drawn stereoscopic films will be introduced producing new and unusual effects. Painted sea-waves will pass into real waves—and autumn wind will send leaves whirling over the heads of the audience—a wild cat stealthily creeping along the bough of a tree will suddenly leap into the auditorium; a hurricane breaking out of the screen will sweep through the house.

The new film will not be shown on the old stereoscopic screen, but on the new luminous one, which is also one of Ivanov's inventions. This screen increases



A bill giving municipalities the right to stop children under 15 from attending any movie or amusement which they may designate failed to pass in the Manitoba legislature recently. Considerable opposition to the bill, which was termed unwarranted interference with parental rights, arose both in the legislature and in the press.

This cartoon appeared in the Winnipeg Free Press during the controversy. Film and theatre men are pleased to observe that there are people who recognize the exaggerated attitude of some pressure groups and liken them to the classical character here depicted.

vividness of presentation 9-12 fold as compared with the old one.

NOT so long ago Andrievski made another invention in association with Ivanov—another type of screen which they called integral. The variety will enable the length of the hall to be increased to an unlimited extent and the stereoscopic pictures to be visible not only to the spectator in the pit but also on the balcony.

In addition, the integral screen opens wide vistas for stereoscopy. It will enable new films to be made which were impracticable before.

Academician Peter Kapidza, the famous Soviet scholar, expressed high appreciation of the invention stating that it surpasses anything achieved so far abroad.

During wartime some small newsreels have been produced. In a few months time they will all

be on view on the screens of the Soviet Union.

The new films are being looked forward to with tremendous interest. Before the war there was only one picture theatre in Moscow where the stereoscopic film was shown. It was always filled to overcrowding. It goes without saying that with Ivanov's new inventions the interest has risen to a pitch of still greater intensity.

Roy Rogers Here

Republic's Roy Rogers, King of the cowboys, is in Toronto with a Rodeo this week.

United Amusements Issues Report

United Amusements Corporation Limited reports an increase in gross revenue for 1944 and an increase in net profit after provision of heavier taxes.

Gross income was \$1,271,764 in 1944 against \$1,257,406 in 1943. Net profit was \$154,796 against \$187,136 in 1943.

Project's Given Free Insurance

All projectionists, engineers, stage hands, etc., employed by Famous Players throughout Canada will receive Group Life Insurance certificates from the company giving them a \$2,000 insurance policy. Famous Players absorbs the cost—no insurance premiums will be paid by the men.

The basis of this group insurance is three years' service with Famous Players and as others become eligible their names will be added to the group in August of each year. In the neighborhood of 400 new policies have been written under this plan by the London Life Insurance Company.

John J. Fitzgibbons, president, announced that Famous Players had had this plan under consideration for some time.

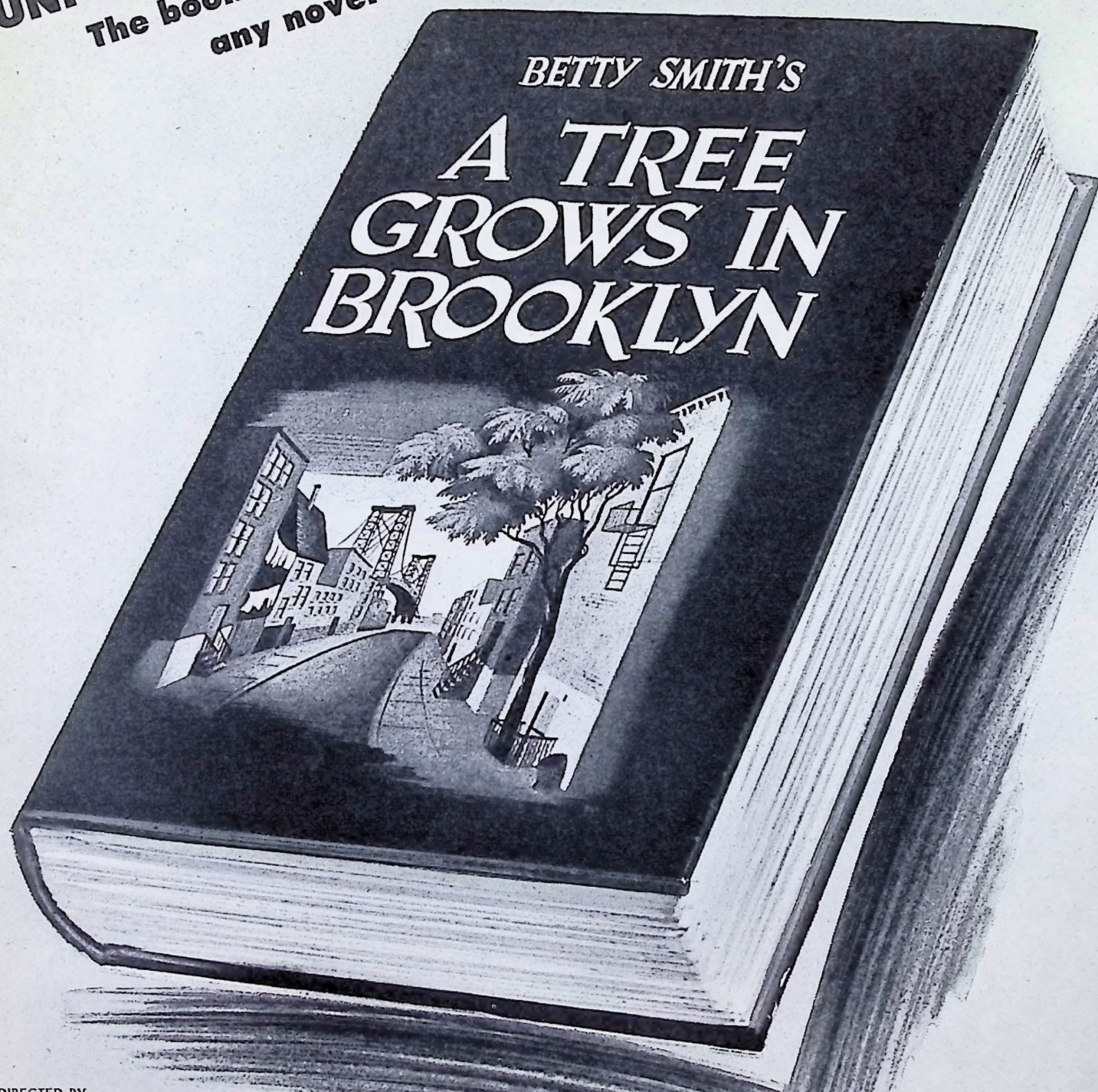


BELLE of the YUKON

RKO's "Belle of the Yukon" is exciting entertainment in lavish Technicolor. Produced along musical comedy lines, it has many melodramatic moments and should bring strong business through its BO names. Randolph Scott, Gypsy Rose Lee, Dinah Shore, Bob Burns, Charles Winninger and Guinn "Big Boy" Williams stand out in it.



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ELIA KAZAN
PRODUCED BY
LOUIS D. LIGHTON
Screen Play by Tess Slesinger and Frank Davis

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